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Federal Communications Commission

DA 99-2101

DISPATCHELLEY	Before the
	Federal Communications Commission
	Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)	
Amendment of Section 73.202(b),	,)	MM Docket No. 99-299
Table of Allotments,)	RM-9687
FM Broadcast Stations.)	
(Osceola and Sedalia, Missouri))	

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING

Adopted: September 29, 1999 Released: October 8, 1999

Comment Date: November 29, 1999 Reply Date: December 14, 1999

By the Chief, Allocations Branch

- 1. Before the Commission for consideration is a Petition for Rule Making filed on behalf of The Clair Group ("Clair"), licensee of Station KMFC(FM), Centralia, Missouri. Clair requests the substitution of Channel 285A for Channel 222A at Osceola, Missouri, and substitution of Channel 222A for Channel 221A at Sedalia, Missouri, to allow Station KMFC(FM), Centralia, to operate with maximum Class A facilities of six kilowatts. Clair stated it will promptly file the appropriate application for the facility at Centralia if substitutions are made at Osceola and Sedalia.
- 2. In support of the proposal, Clair states that Station KMFC(FM) is the only aural service licensed to Centralia and is currently precluded from operating with maximum Class A facilties of six kilowatts as it is short spaced to Station KSDL at Sedalia, Missouri. Clair points out that this short spacing results from the adoption of the increased separation distances for Class A stations in Second Report and Order, MM Docket 88-375, 4 FCC Rcd 6375 (1989). Further, Stations KSDL, Sedalia, and Station KCVJ, Osceola, are similarly precluded from operating at six kilowatts. Clair argues that grant of the channel substitutions and license modifications requested will permit three stations to improve service to their respective communities of license. Clair states that is has been in contact with Stations KCVJ and KSDL and has been advised that KSVJ and KSDL will support the proposed substitutions.¹ Clair

The Clair Group has stated that it has reached an agreement with the licensees of Stations KSDL, Sedalia, and KCVJ, Osceola, with regard to reimbursement and support of the proposal. Therefore, we will not issue an order to show cause to Stations KSDL and KCVJ but will serve them with a copy of the Notice of Proposed Rule Making.

further states that it has reached an agreement with Stations KCVJ and KSDL regarding reimbursement for expenses in effectuating their respective channel substitutions and facilities upgrades.

- 3. Lake Area Educational Broadcasting Foundation ("Lake Area"), licensee of Station KSVJ, Osceola, Missouri, filed an amendment to Clair's Petition for Rule Making proposing the substitution of Channel 262A for Channel 222A at Osceola rather than the substitution of Channel 285A. Lake Area states that Channel 262A can be allotted to Osceola in full compliance with the Commission's spacing requirements. Lake Area states that it supports the substitution of Channel 262A for Channel 222A at Osceola but withdraws its support for the previously-filed request for Station KSVJ to operate on Channel 285A.
- 4. We believe the public interest would be served by proposing the substitution of Channel 222A for Channel 221A at Sedalia, Missouri, with a modification of the license for Station KSDL to specify Channel 222A and the substitution of Channel 262A for Channel 222A at Osceola and modification of the license for Station KSVJ to specify operation on Channel 262A since the substitutions will provide expanded service to Sedalia and Osceola and allow Station KMFC, Centralia, to operate with six kilowatts. We will not accept competing expressions of interest for the use of Channel 222A at Sedalia or Channel 262A at Osceola because the Commission's Rules do not contemplate the filing of expressions of interest in proceedings, such as this one, which seek to make equivalent channel substitutions.² A staff engineering analysis indicates that Channel 222A can be allotted to Sedalia and Channel 262A can be allotted to Osceola in compliance with the Commission's minimum distance separation requirements at the requested sites.³
- 5. Accordingly, we seek comments on the proposed amendment of the FM Table of Allotments, Section 73.202(b) of the Commission's Rules, for the communities listed below, to read as follows:

	Channel No.		
Community	Present	Proposed	
Osceola, Missouri	222A	262A	
Sedalia, Missouri	221A	222A	

The Commission considers channels of the same class to be equivalent unless showings have been made that a station cannot be constructed for reasons such as environmental consequences or air hazards. See Vero Beach, Florida, 3 FCC Rcd 1049 (1988), rev. denied, 4 FCC 2184 (1989) and Tawas City, Michigan, 9 FCC Rcd 4794(1994), recon. denied, 10 FCC Rcd 6108 (1995).

 $^{^3}$ The coordinates for Channel 222A at Sedalia are 38-43-52 and 93-13-32. The coordinates for Channel 262A at Osceola are 39-09-58 and 92-09-52.

6. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, That the Secretary Shall Send, by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, a copy of this Notice of Proposed Rule Making to the following:

Bick Broadcasting

Lake Area Educational Broadcasting Foundation

Station KSDL

Station KCVJ P. O. Box 800

119 North 3rd, Box 711 Hannibal, Missouri 63401

Camdenton, Missouri 65020

- 7. The Commission's authority to institute rule making proceedings, showings required, cut-off procedures, and filing requirements are contained in the attached Appendix and are incorporated by reference herein. In particular, we note that a showing of continuing interest is required by paragraph 2 of the Appendix before a channel will be allotted.
- 8. Interested parties may file comments on or before **November 29, 1999**, and reply comments on or before **December 14, 1999**, and are advised to read the Appendix for the proper procedures. Comments should be filed with the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D. C., 20554. Additionally, a copy of such comments should be served on the petitioner's counsel, as follows:

Lauren Lynch FlickFisher Wayland Cooper Leader& Zaragoza L.L.P.2001 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 400Washington, D. C. 20006

- 9. The Commission has determined that the relevant provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 do not apply to rule making proceedings to amend the FM Table of Allotments, Section 73.202(b) of the Commission's Rules. See Certification that Sections 603 and 604 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act Do Not Apply to Rule Making to Amend Sections 73.202(b), 73.504 and 73.606(b) of the Commission's Rules, 46 FR 11549, February 9, 1981.
- 10. For further information concerning this proceeding contact Kathleen Scheuerle, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418-2180. For purposes of this restricted notice and comment rule making proceeding, members of the public are advised that no ex parte presentations are permitted from the time the Commission adopts a Notice of Proposed Rule Making until the proceeding has been decided and such decision is no longer subject to reconsideration by the commission or review by any court. An ex parte presentation is not prohibited if specifically requested by the Commission or staff for the clarification or adduction of evidence or resolution of issues in the proceeding. However, any new written information elicited from such a request or a summary of any new oral information shall be served by the person making the presentation upon other parties to the proceeding unless the Commission specifically waives this service requirement. Any

comment which has not been served on the petitioner constitutes an <u>ex parte</u> presentation and shall not be considered in the proceeding. Any reply comment which has not been served on the person(s) who filed the comment, to which the reply is directed, constitutes an <u>ex parte</u> presentation and shall not be considered in this proceeding.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

John A. Karousos Chief, Allocations Branch Policy and Rules Division Mass Media Bureau

APPENDIX

- 1. Pursuant to authority found in Sections 4(i), 5(c)(1), 303(g) and (r) and 307(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and Sections 0.61, 0.204.(b) and 0.283 of the Commission's Rules, IT IS PROPOSED TO AMEND the FM Table of Allotments, Section 73.202(b) of the Commission's Rules and Regulations, as set forth in the Notice of Proposed Rule Making to which this Appendix is attached.
- 2. Showings Required. Comments are invited on the proposal(s) discussed in the Notice of Proposed Rule Making to which this Appendix is attached. Proponent(s) will be expected to answer whatever questions are presented in initial comments. The proponent of a proposed allotment is also expected to file comments even if it only resubmits or incorporates by reference its former pleadings. It should also restate its present intention to apply for the channel if it is allotted and, if authorized, to build a station promptly. Failure to file may lead to denial of the request.
- 3. <u>Cut-off Procedures</u>. The following procedures will govern the consideration of filings in this proceeding.
 - (a) Counterproposals advanced in this proceeding itself will be considered if advanced in initial comments, so that parties may comment on them in reply comments. They will not be considered if advanced in reply comments. (See Section 1.420(d) of the Commission's Rules).
 - (b) With respect to petitions for rule making which conflict with the proposal(s) in this Notice, they will be considered as comments in the proceeding, and Public Notice to this effect will be given as long as they are filed before the date for filing initial comments herein. If they are filed later than that, they will not be considered in connection with the decision in this docket.
 - (c) The filing of a counterproposal may lead the Commission to allot a different channel than was requested for any of the communities involved.
- 4. Comments and Reply Comments; Service. Pursuant to applicable procedures set out in Sections 1.415 and 1.420 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations, interested parties may file comments and reply comments on or before the dates set forth in the Notice of Proposed Rule Making to which this Appendix is attached. All submissions by parties to this proceeding or by persons acting on behalf of such parties, must be made in written comments reply comments, or other appropriate pleadings. Comments shall be served on the petitioner by the person filing the comments. Reply comments shall be served on the person(s) who filed comments to which the reply is directed. such comments and reply comments shall be accompanied by a certificate of service. (See Section 1.420(a), (b) and (c) of the Commission's Rules.) Comments should be filed with the Secretary, Federal communications Commission,

Washington, D, C. 20554.

- 5. <u>Number of Copies</u>. In accordance with the provisions of Section 1.420 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations, an original and four copies of all comments, reply comments, pleadings, briefs, or other documents shall be furnished the Commission.
- 6. <u>Public Inspection of Filings</u>. All filings made in this proceeding will be available for examination by interested parties during regular business hours in the Commission's Reference Information Center at its headquarters, Washington, D. C.